

IT Reserve Account
Prepared for the Legislative Council
June 10, 2011

5-11-407. Legislative branch reserve account. (1) There is a legislative branch reserve account in the state special revenue fund. Money may be deposited in the account through an allocation of money to the account or as provided in 17-7-304.

(2) (a) The money in the account is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, to the legislative services division to be used only for major legislative branch information technology projects, including the purchase of hardware, software, and consulting services for new initiatives and replacement and upgrading of existing systems.

(b) The money in the account may be expended only with the approval of the legislative council. The legislative branch computer system planning council may make recommendations to the legislative council for the use of the money in the account.

(3) The money in the account must be invested pursuant to Title 17, chapter 6. The income and earnings on the account must be deposited in the account.

Account Balance

The IT Reserve cash and investment balance is \$434,123 at the end of May. If the appropriate authorities approve the transfer of funds, deposits in the next few months could include:

1. Approximately \$240,000 in June from reverting division carry forward balances (transfer is at the option of the division directors).
2. Approximately \$500,870 in August or September from reverted feed bill balances (transfer requires approval of Leg Council for LSD feed bill, Speaker for the House, and President for the Senate).

New total would be just under \$1.2 million.

Request for Approval

Hank Trenk, Director of the Office of Information Technology for the Legislative Branch, has prepared a request for approval to expend money from the Legislative Branch IT Reserve Account in the amount of \$292,270 for three separate projects (see attached).

Legislative Branch IT Reserve Account
Request for Project Funding
June 10, 2011

Project Name	Project Description	Amount Requested
Move Microsoft Access Databases to Oracle	<p>The Legislative Branch has many IT systems (more than 10) that were created using Microsoft Access. These systems range in age from 5 to 13 years. Microsoft Access has several limitations and vulnerabilities when it is used as an interface to the internet. Oracle is a more robust database product and has a built in web server interface. It is much more suited for this type of work.</p> <p>Contractor support is requested to help assist with database design, build applications, and help train our staff.</p>	\$95,520 for contractor support \$24,000 for contract training and software licenses
Consolidate LAWS Oracle Databases	<p>Since its inception in 1999, the LAWS system has required a new instance (separate copy of the database) for each legislative session. The original concept was that the previous session database would be erased and used again for the next session. Because of the popularity of the previous session data, this became impractical. We now have 9 different LAWS Oracle Databases. Keeping this many LAWS databases operational is a lot of work. These LAWS databases are hosted by SITSD. Recently, SITSD changed their rate structure and now charges more for each individual Oracle database, thus providing future cost savings, another reason for consolidation.</p>	\$102,750 for contractor support
LFD Publishing and Budgeting Reports	<p>LFD utilizes numeric and text information from MBARS to produce three major publications (e.g., Budget Analysis, HB2 Narrative and the Fiscal Report). Under current processes, all three documents are produced by embedded code within the MBARS system. The output from MBARS is a network file that is further modified by support staff. The process has worked well but as LFD has needed to add additional information, or modify existing document layouts, the process has become more labor intensive and unreliable. The purpose of this project is to develop a new solution to improve this publication process. Cost estimates cannot be developed until a final approach to solving these problems is determined.</p>	Will put in a request at a later date

Project Name	Project Description	Amount Requested
Convert from Novell Servers to Microsoft Windows Servers	The Legislative Branch has used Novell File and Print servers for several years. Recently, Novell the company, went out of business and sold itself to another company called Attachmate. Although we could probably still get support for our Novell products, there is no guarantee these products will be supported in the long run. Microsoft Windows has a much larger market share and thus is guaranteed to be supported much longer into the future. File and Print servers are a critical part of delivering IT services to the Branch. All of the Bills, Journal, Committee Minutes, etc. are stored on the File and Print servers. Staff is recommending that we convert from Novell to Microsoft Windows File and Print servers in order to guarantee that we are on vendor supported software for the long run.	\$75,000 for contractor support
Total		\$297,270

